

Waterfowl Hunting on Wildlife Areas



**The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Region 6**

South Puget Sound Wildlife Area

Union River Unit
Nisqually Unit
Duckabush Unit
Morgan Marsh
Scatter Creek Unit
Davis Creek Unit
Skokomish Delta Unit
West Rocky Unit

North Olympic Wildlife Area

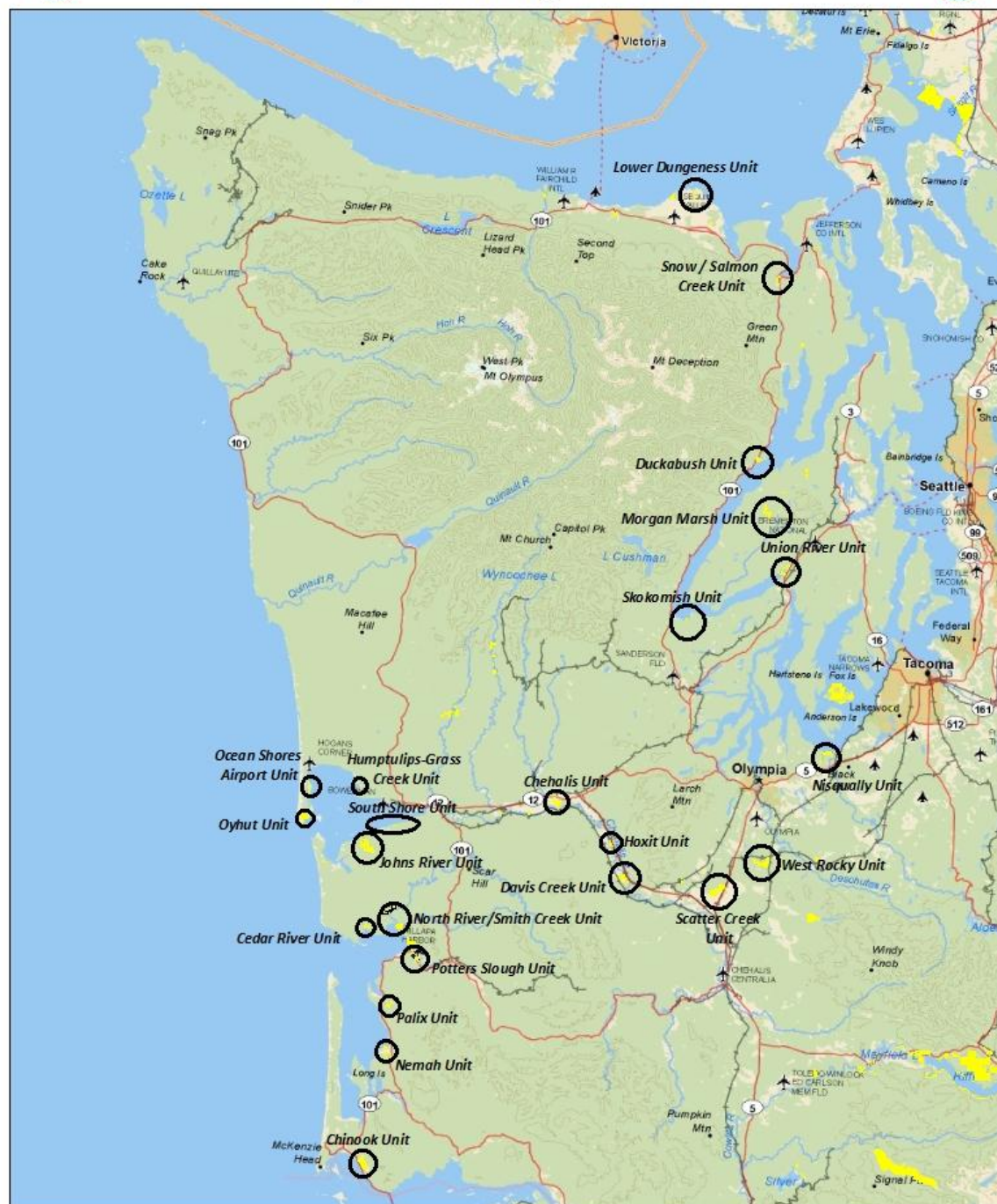
Lower Dungeness Unit
Snow/Salmon Creek Unit

Olympic-Willapa Hills Wildlife Area

Willapa Wetlands (Potters Slough Unit)
Johns River Unit
Chehalis Unit
Hoxit Unit
Cedar River Unit
North River - Smith Creek Unit
Palix Unit
Nemah Unit
Chinook Unit
Ocean Shores Airport Unit
Oyhut Unit
Humptulips/Grass Creek Unit
South Shore Grays Harbor Unit

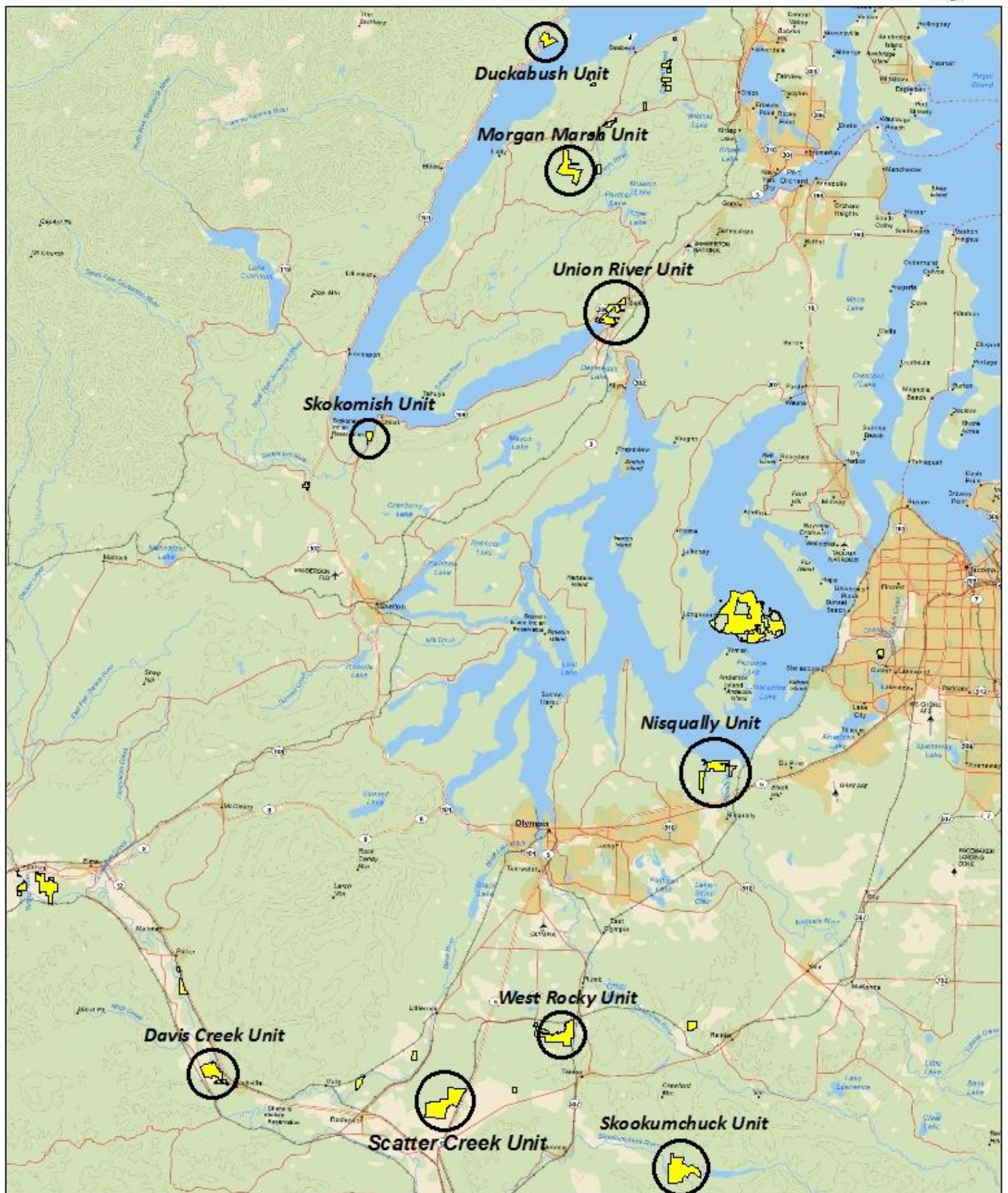


Region 6 Waterfowl Hunting Locations





South Puget Sound Wildlife Area Waterfowl Hunting Locations



UNION RIVER UNIT – 420 acres

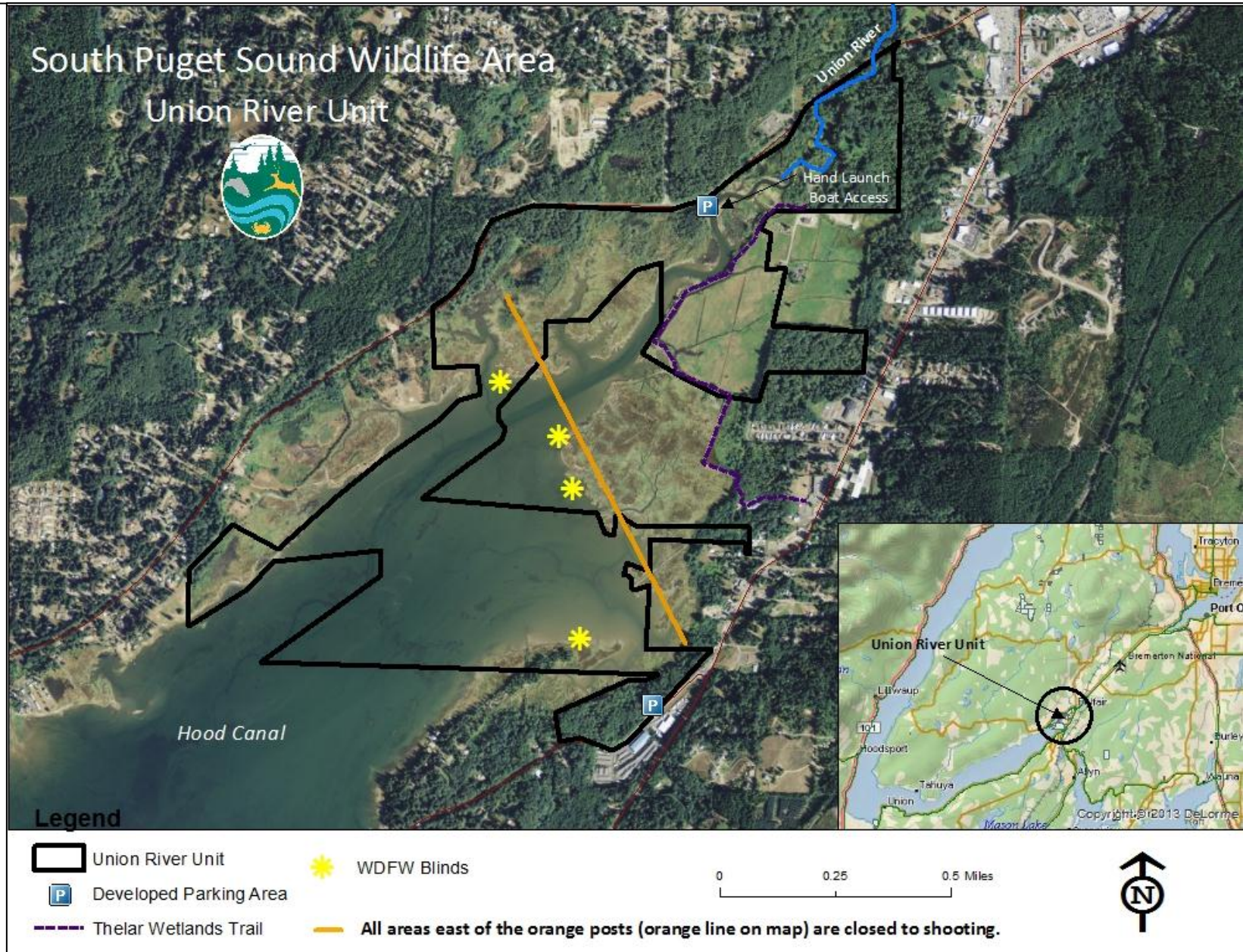
The Union River Unit is located on Hood Canal near the town of Belfair. It provides estuary protection on the Union River Delta and habitat for salmon and waterfowl. Much of the land surrounding this parcel, including the Thelar Wetlands, is protected through other conservation efforts. The area is predominated by marine estuarine habitat and supports rather high numbers of waterfowl in winter. Hunting is mostly limited to 4 designated WDFW blinds with access primarily by boat. A small parking area and hand boat launch is located just off Highway 300 about 0.7 miles from Belfair. Alternatively, there is primitive "walk-in" access to areas located on Lynch Cove off of Highway 106 (near the Highway 3 intersection). **Please note that all areas east of the orange posts (orange line on map) are closed to shooting and that all shooting is to be directed in a westerly direction over Hood Canal.**

Scouting Report

Dabbling Ducks Moderate to high numbers of mallards, wigeon and pintails; green-winged teal may be present at low numbers.

Diving Ducks Moderate to high numbers of bufflehead, common and Barrow's goldeneye, surf and white winged scoters, and scaup.

Geese
Low numbers of Canada geese.



NISQUALLY UNIT – 648 acres

The Nisqually Unit is located about 9 miles northeast of Olympia, WA. Habitat at this property includes marine tidal flats and estuaries, riparian, open fields, and mixed coniferous/deciduous forest. Hunting at this unit is largely by boat at the edge of the marine estuary. Large numbers of wintering waterfowl are present. Most hunters access this area from the Luhr's Boat Launch. The property was purchased for outdoor recreation, including public hunting and fishing, sightseeing, photography, nature study and boating. Habitat types include tidal flats, estuary, riparian, open fields and forest. Habitat suitable for waterfowl, raptors and migratory birds dominates the landscape.

Scouting Report

Dabbling Ducks:

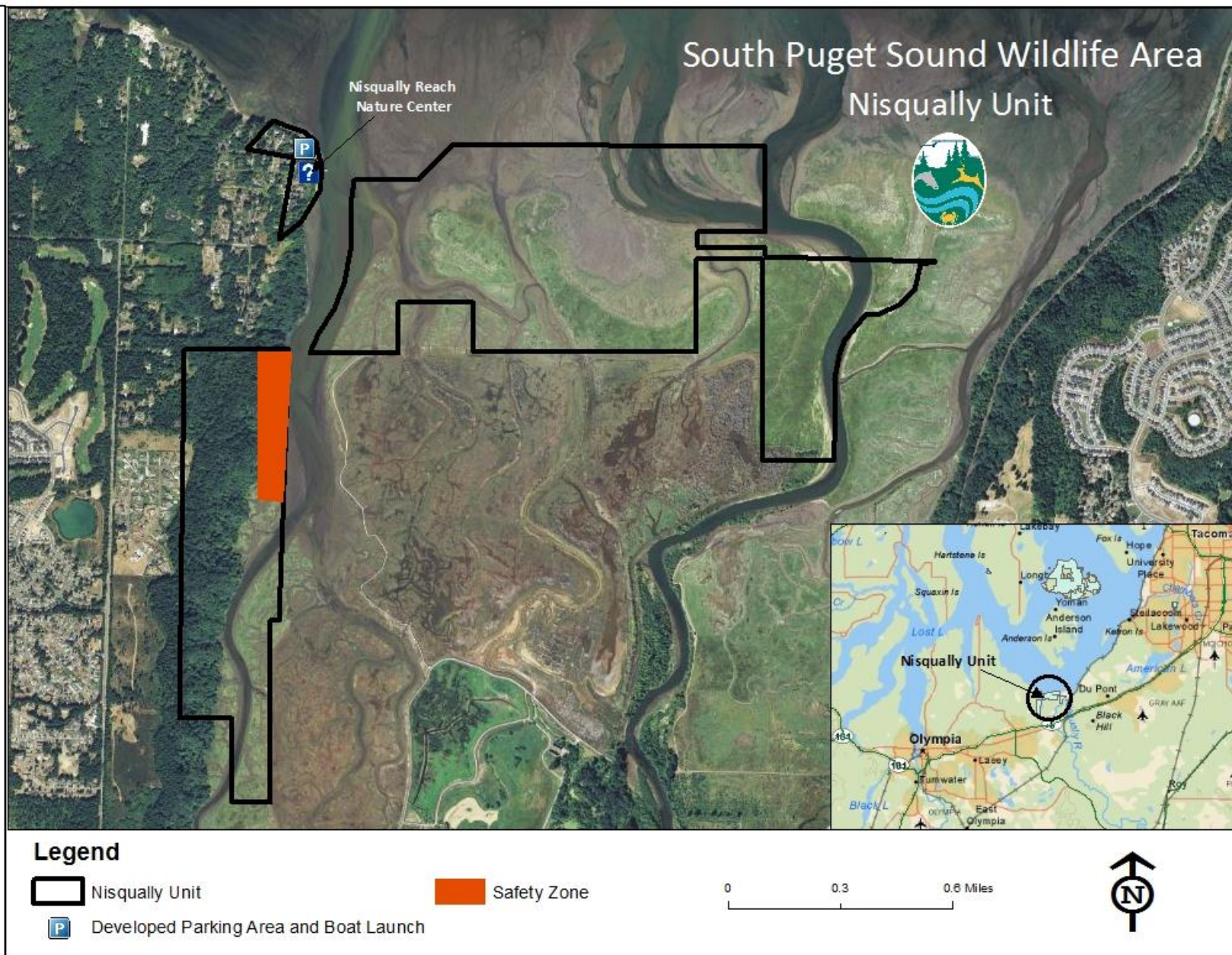
Moderate to high numbers of mallards, wigeon, teal, northern pintail, and low numbers of gadwall may be present.

Diving Ducks:

Moderate numbers of bufflehead and common goldeneye, scaup; low numbers of Barrow's goldeneye.

Geese:

Moderate numbers Canada geese .



DUCKABUSH UNIT – 124 acres

The Duckabush Unit is located at the mouth of the Duckabush River on Hood Canal approximately 4 miles south of Brinnon, WA. This area is primarily comprised of marine estuarine habitat supporting moderate to high numbers of wintering waterfowl. Access is by foot or boat. Parking is available on the south side of the Duckabush River Bridge and the west side of Highway 101. Be aware of the protected trumpeter swans that use this estuary.

Scouting Report

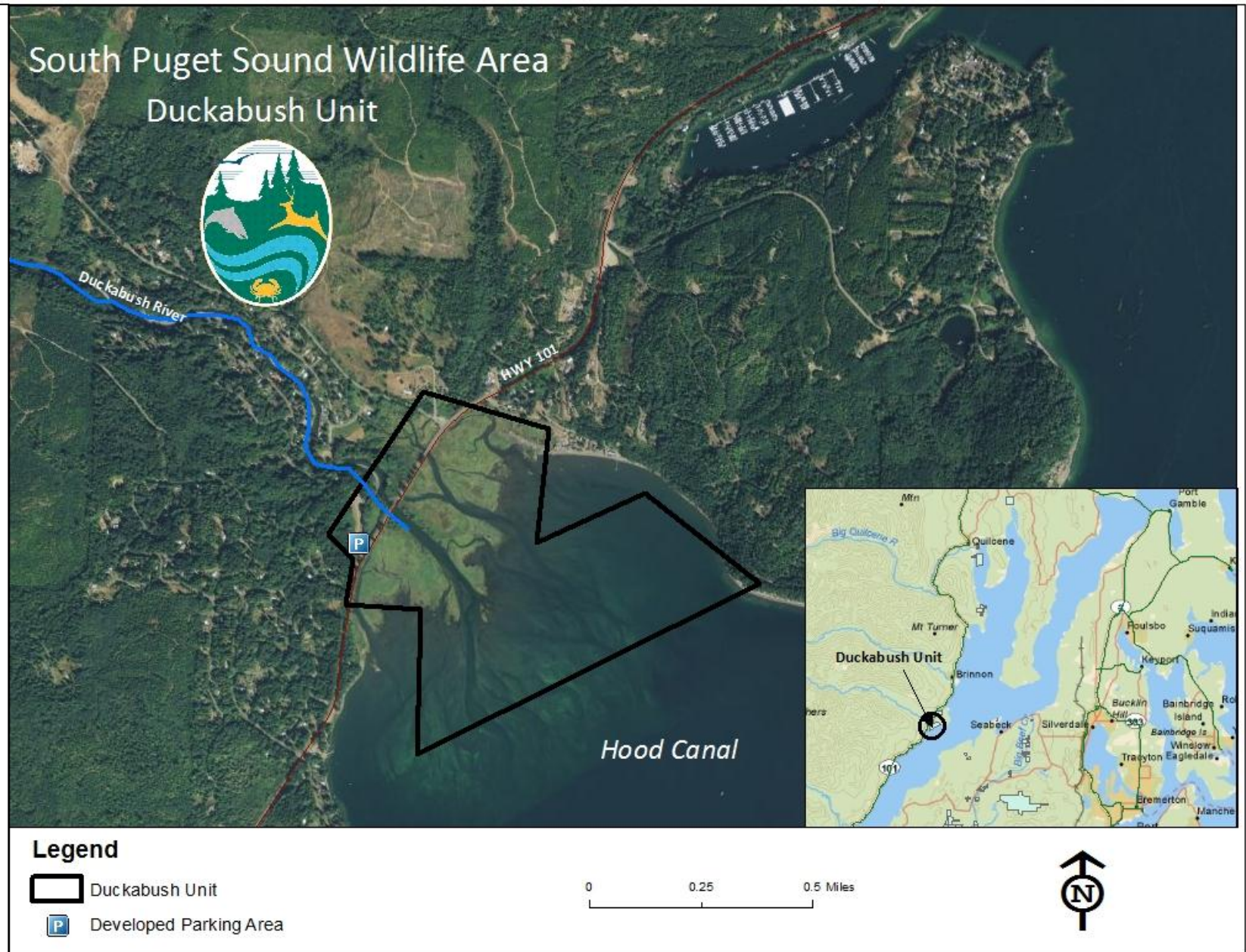
Dabbling Ducks:

Moderate numbers of wintering mallards, American and an occasional Eurasian wigeon, and some pintails.

Diving Ducks:

Moderate numbers of wintering bufflehead, common and Barrow's goldeneye; low numbers of surf and white-winged scoters off shore, as well as, common and red breasted mergansers.

Geese: Low numbers of Canada geese during winter.



MORGAN MARSH – 610 acres

The Morgan Marsh is located about 4 miles west of Bremerton. Habitat at this property includes riparian, wetlands, open water, fields, and some second growth coniferous forest. Limited duck hunting occurs for mallards, teal and buffleheads at this walk-in location. From Bremerton, WA: 1: Start out going West on 6th ST toward Warren Ave/ WA-303, go 1.1 miles. 2. 6th ST becomes Kitsap Way/WA-310, go 1.6 miles. 3. Merge onto WA-3 N toward Silverdale / Hood Canal Bridge, go 4.9 miles. 4: Take the Newberry Hill Rd Exit, go 0.4 miles. 5. Turn Left onto NW Newberry Hill Rd, go 3.1 miles. 6: Turn Right onto Seabeck Hwy NW, go 5.0 miles. 7: Seabeck Hwy NW becomes NW Seabeck Holly Rd, go 5.0 miles. 8: Turn Slight left onto Hintzville Rd NW, go 0.9 miles. 9. Turn Left onto NW One Mile Rd, then immediately turn onto Lost Hwy W, go 1/2 Mile to Gate.

Scouting Report

Dabbling Ducks:

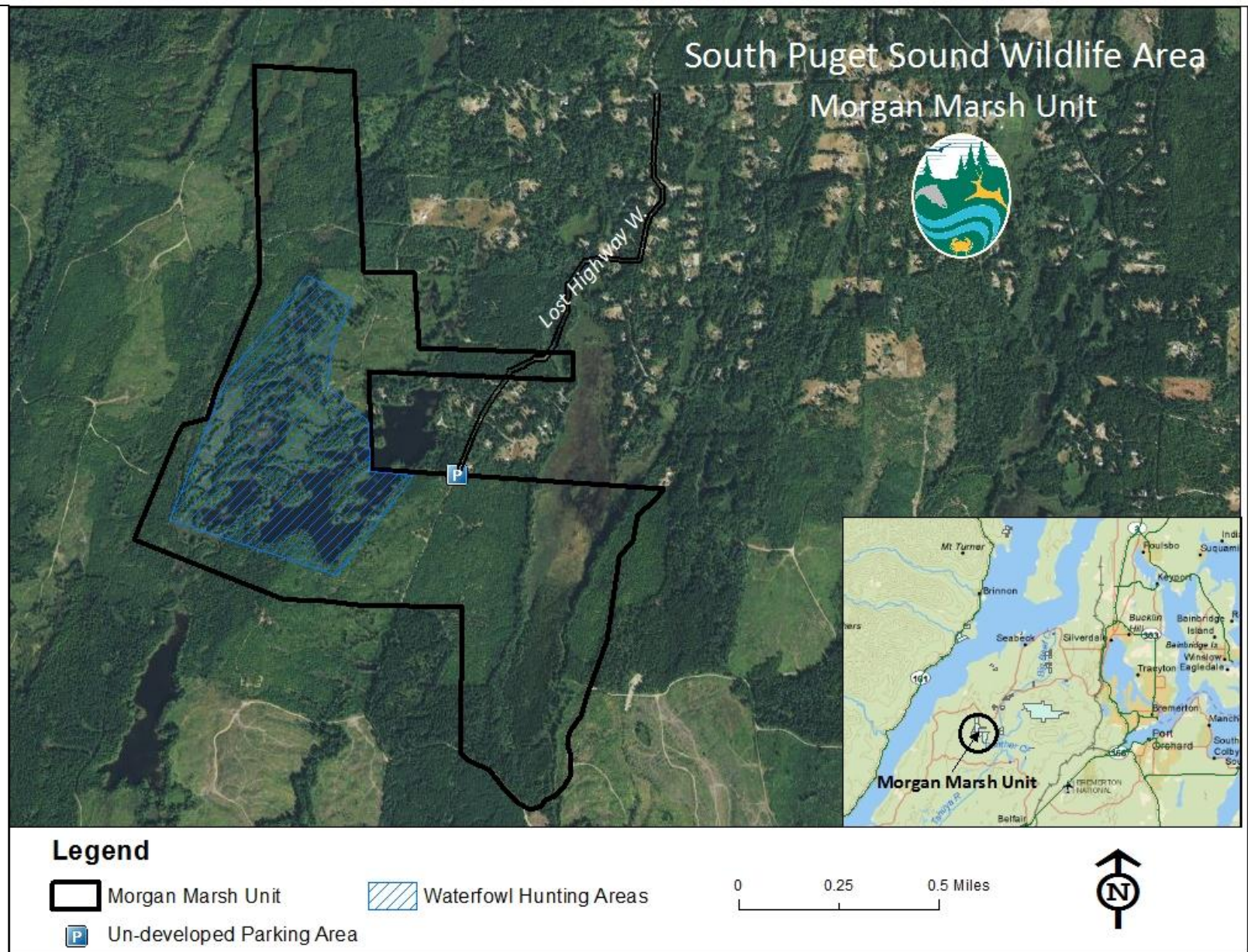
Low numbers of mallards and teal

Diving Ducks:

Low to moderate numbers of bufflehead, goldeneyes, ring-necked ducks, scaup, and hooded and common mergansers

Geese:

Low numbers of geese



SCATTER CREEK (SOUTH UNIT) - 492 acres

Limited hunting occurs at the south unit of Scatter Creek along the Scatter Creek channel and wetlands. This area is accessed by a large main parking area located off of Guava Street. Coming from the North on I-5: Using Case Road: Take Exit 95, at end of offramp take a left, then another quick left onto Case Road. Go 4 miles, the North Parking Lot of the North Unit will be on the right. Go another .4 miles down Case Road to the Middle Parking Lot. Go another .8 miles down Case Road and then take a Right onto 180th Ave. The Main Parking Lot of the South Unit is .4 miles down 180th Ave. Mostly jump shooting.

Scouting Report

Dabbling Ducks:

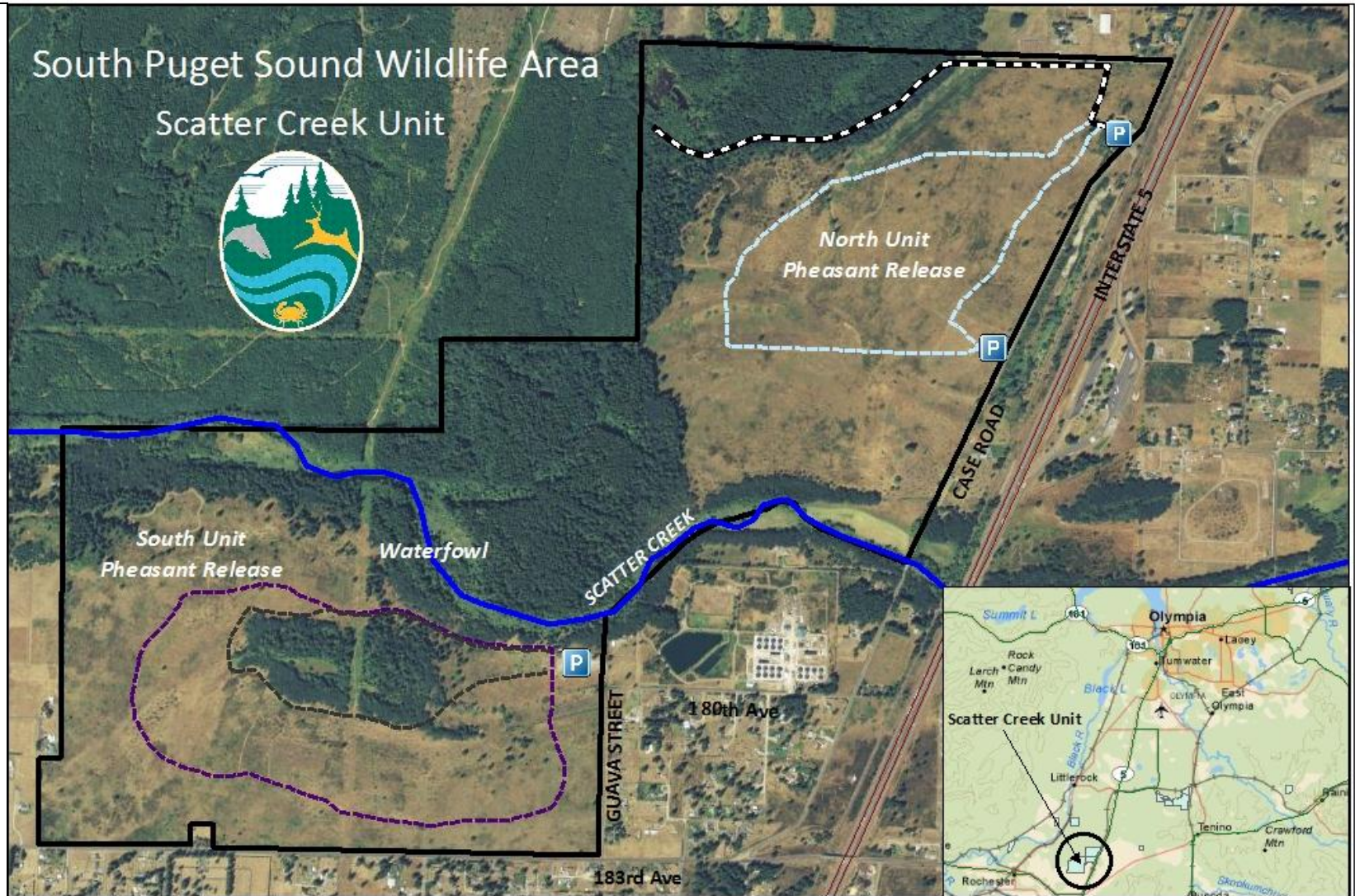
Low numbers of mallards and teal. Occasionally wood ducks early in the season.

Diving Ducks:

Occasional common goldeneyes, buffleheads and hooded mergansers.

Geese:

Unlikely to encounter geese in this unit.



Legend

- Scatter Creek Wildlife Area Unit
- Developed Parking Area
- Horse Access Trail
- North Unit Loop Trail
- South Unit Inner Loop Trail (Open April 1 - July 31)
- South Unit Outer Loop Trail (Open August 1 - March 31)

DAVIS CREEK (KOOPMANS FARM) UNIT – 500 acres

The Davis Creek (Koopmans) Unit is located just outside the town of Oakville near State Highway 12. Habitat characteristics of the property owned by WDFW are characterized as open wetland, riparian, shrub, meadow/field and oak woodland. The property hosts a number of recreational activities and is actively farmed for hay through an agricultural lease. Other popular activities include hunting for waterfowl, deer, elk, and doves. The site also hosts numerous specially permitted events for dog field trials and training. There is Chehalis River access for fishing on the eastern boundary of the property. This is an excellent birding area and is recognized by the Puget Lowlands Riparian Bird Conservation Area as a priority habitat. There are several options for waterfowl hunting at this unit including field swale and sheet water habitats, Chehalis River backchannels, and Davis Creek beaver dam associated wetlands.

Scouting Report

Dabbling Ducks:

Moderate numbers of mallards, pintail, wigeon and teal. Wood ducks may be found early in the season.

Diving Ducks:

Buffleheads and Ring-necked ducks.

Geese:

Canada geese may occur throughout the season.



Legend

- Davis Creek (Koopmans) Unit
- Trail
- Developed Parking Area

0 0.25 0.5 Miles



SKOKOMISH DELTA UNIT – 104 acres

The 104-acre Skokomish Delta unit is 20 miles north of Shelton at the great bend of Hood Canal in Mason County. The property consists of estuary islands at the mouth of the Skokomish River and provides waterfowl hunting access. There is no designated parking for this site and the property is only reachable by boat.

Scouting Report

Dabbling Ducks:

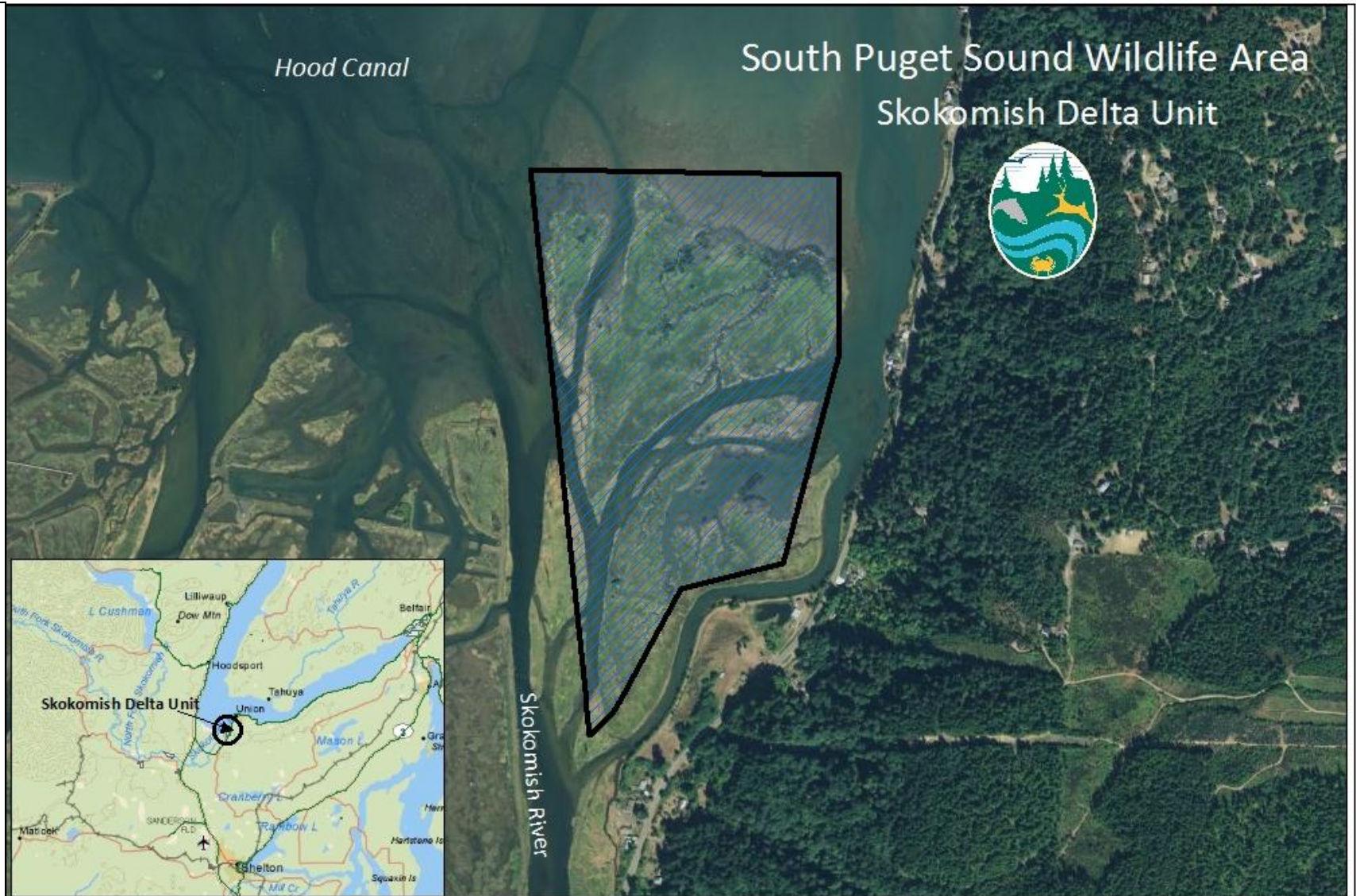
Dependant on weather.
Moderate numbers of mallards, wigeon, teal, gadwall, and pintails.

Diving Ducks:



Low to moderate numbers of bufflehead, scoters, scaup, mergansers and goldeneye

Geese:

Low numbers of Canada geese



Legend

-  Skokomish Delta Unit
-  Waterfowl Hunting Areas (Boat-in Access Only)

0 0.25 0.5 Miles



WEST ROCKY PRAIRIE UNIT – 815 acres

Limited hunting occurs at West Rocky Prairie Unit since the wetlands in this area require a considerable amount of water to consistently attract waterfowl to the area. This area is accessed by a small main parking area located off of 143rd Ave. SE. Take Exit 95 off of I-5 and make a right on Maytown Rd. SW. Make a right on Tilley Rd. S and left on 143rd Ave. SE

Scouting Report

Dabbling Ducks:

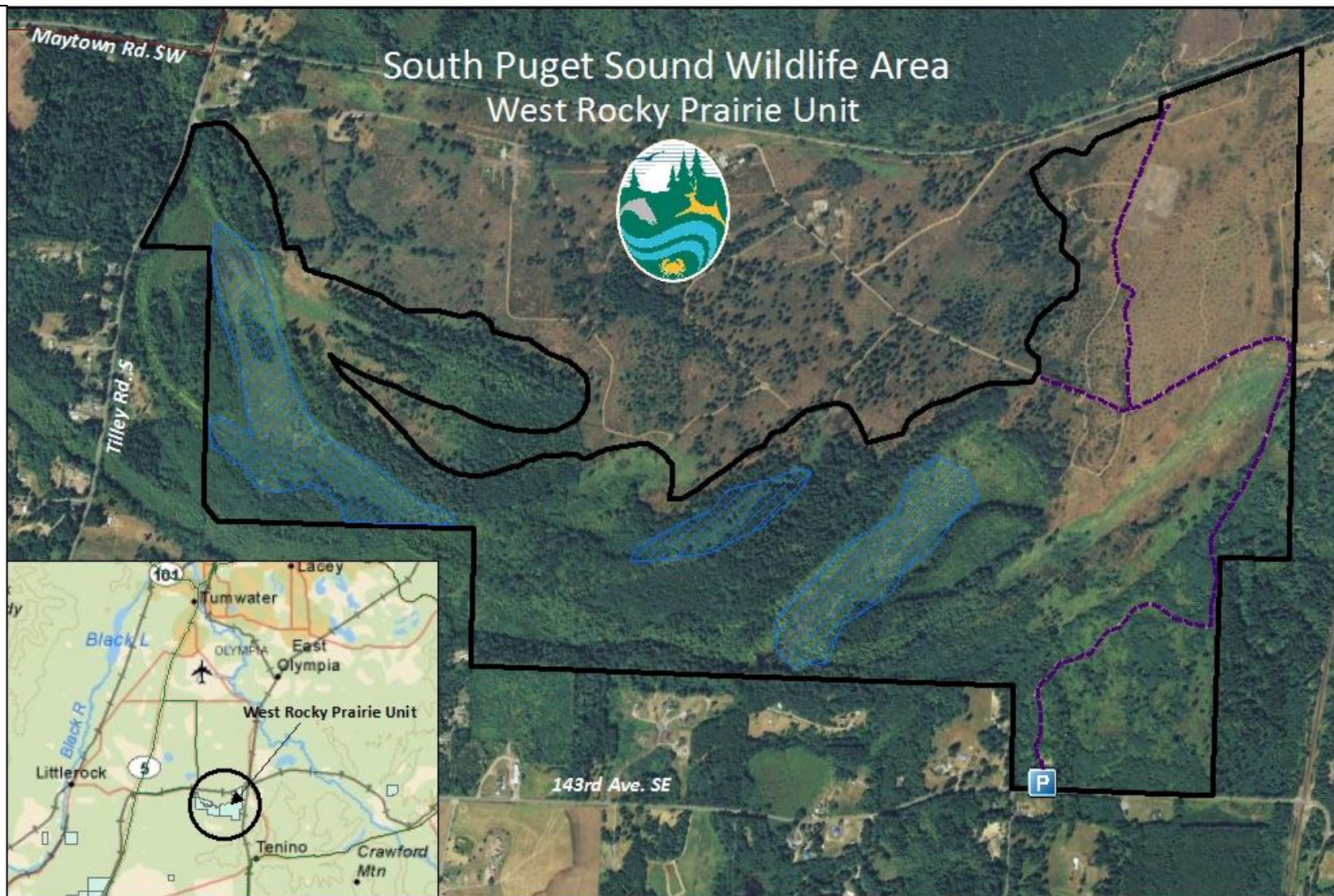
Low numbers of mallards and teal

Diving Ducks:

Low numbers of buffleheads and hooded mergansers

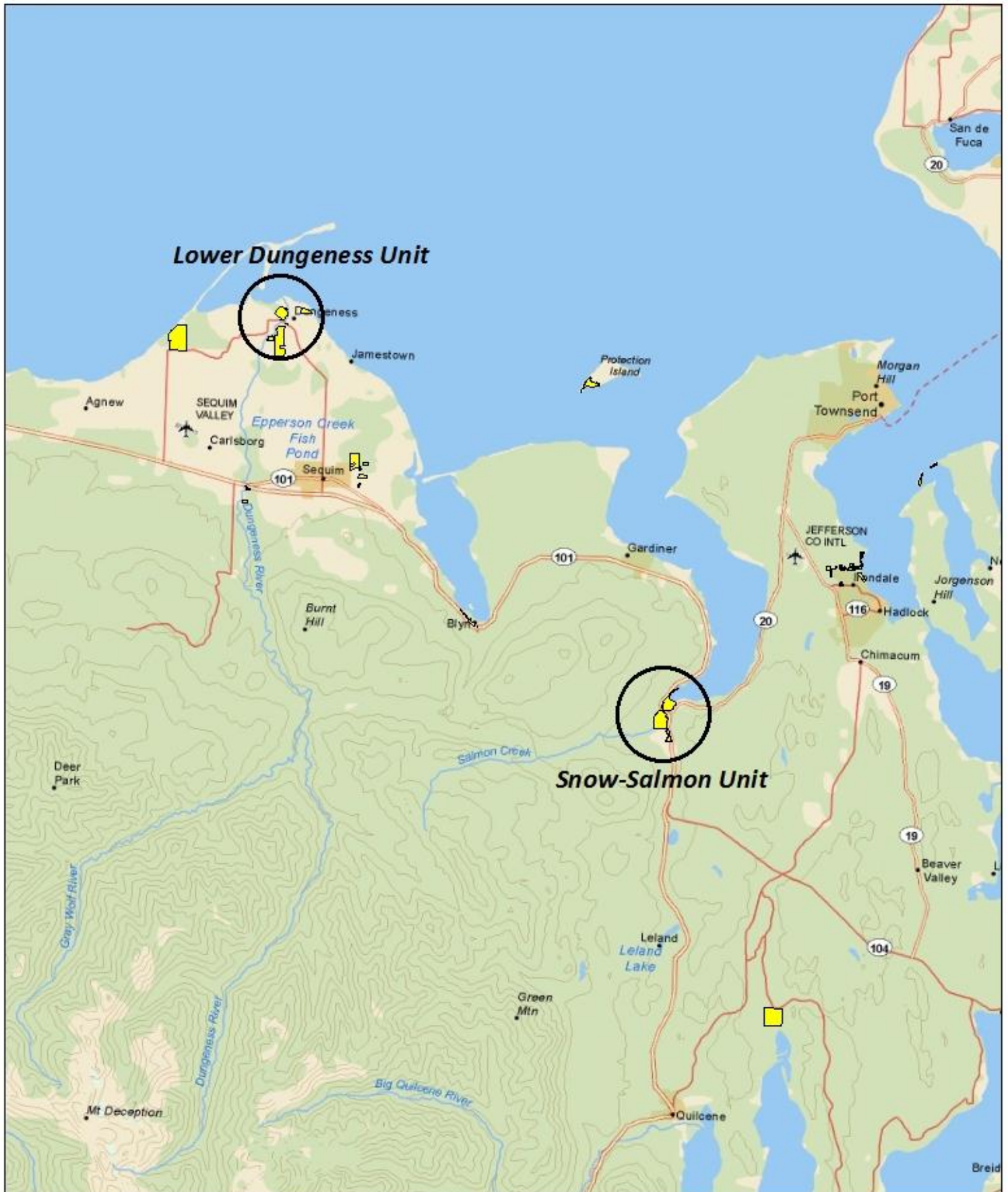
Geese:

Canada geese rarely utilize this area





North Olympic Wildlife Area Waterfowl Hunting Locations



LOWER DUNGENESS UNIT -- 150 acres

The Lower Dungeness Unit is located about 5 miles north of Sequim, WA. A small parking area is located off of Anderson Road adjacent to the Dungeness River. There is an informational kiosk and bathroom for hunters located at this site with rules and conditions for use of the area. There are freshwater ponds located in the main field located below the parking area; however the main hunting area for this unit is located on the tidelands of Dungeness Bay adjacent to the river's mouth. Hunters are required to "walk-in" to the main hunting area. Rivers End road is a privately owned road and cannot be used to access the tidelands. It is approximately .55 of a mile to reach the main hunting areas on this unit. Hunting is permitted on Wednesdays, Saturdays, Sundays and holidays on this unit throughout the regular waterfowl season. This unit can get crowded and hunters are encouraged to arrive early to secure a quality spot. There is room for 2-3 decoy sets on the tidelands associated with this unit

Scouting Report

Dabbling Ducks:

Moderate to high numbers of mallards, pintails, American and Eurasian wigeon, green-winged teal, and shovelers.

Diving Ducks:

Scoters, scaup, goldeneyes and buffleheads occur but tend to stay offshore.

Geese:

Canada and occasionally white-fronted.



SNOW CREEK – SALMON CREEK UNIT – 156 acres

The Snow Creek – Salmon Creek Unit is located at the confluence of Snow Creek and Salmon Creek on the southern end of Discovery Bay off of Highway 101 between Quilcene and Sequim, WA. The habitat is typified by scrub-shrub wetlands, marsh wetlands, forested wetlands, wet upland meadows, upland meadows, and estuaries. While waterfowl hunting is limited on this site, the recent estuary restoration project has improved the number of ducks that are present. There is one main designated parking area on the south side of Highway 101 located off of Uncas Road. Follow Highway 101 north over Snow and Salmon Creeks at the end of Discovery Bay and make a left of West Uncas Road. Follow road for .2 miles and park by WDFW sign on the left hand side of the road. This is the only designated parking area at the Unit. Do not access the site through parcels located by Fat Smitty's or the Antique Shop. The main hunting area is located near the highway in backwater channels and sloughs associated with the Salmon Creek estuary. Waterfowl activity is dictated by weather conditions on Discovery Bay.

Scouting Report

Dabbling Ducks:

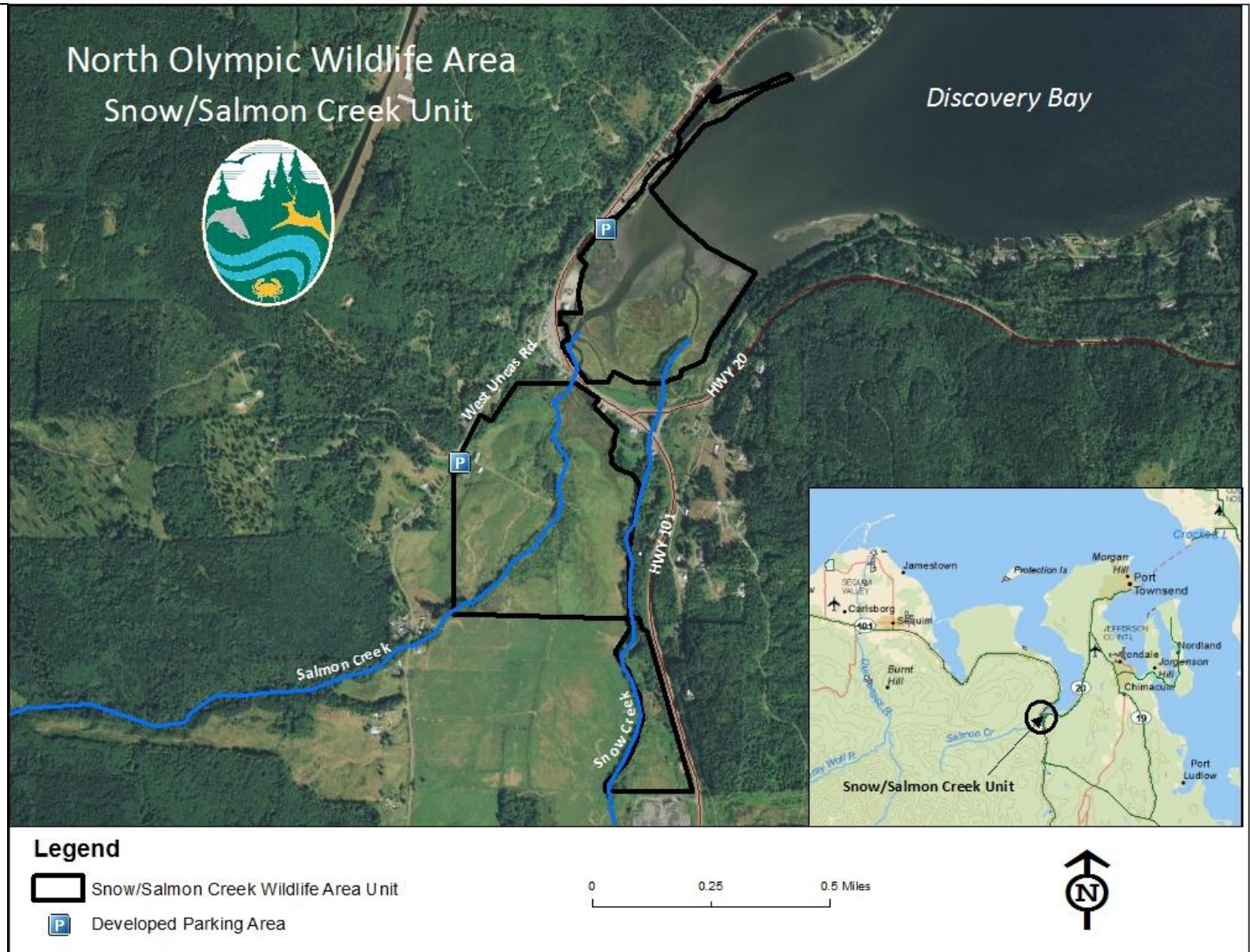
Low numbers of mallards and green-winged teal.

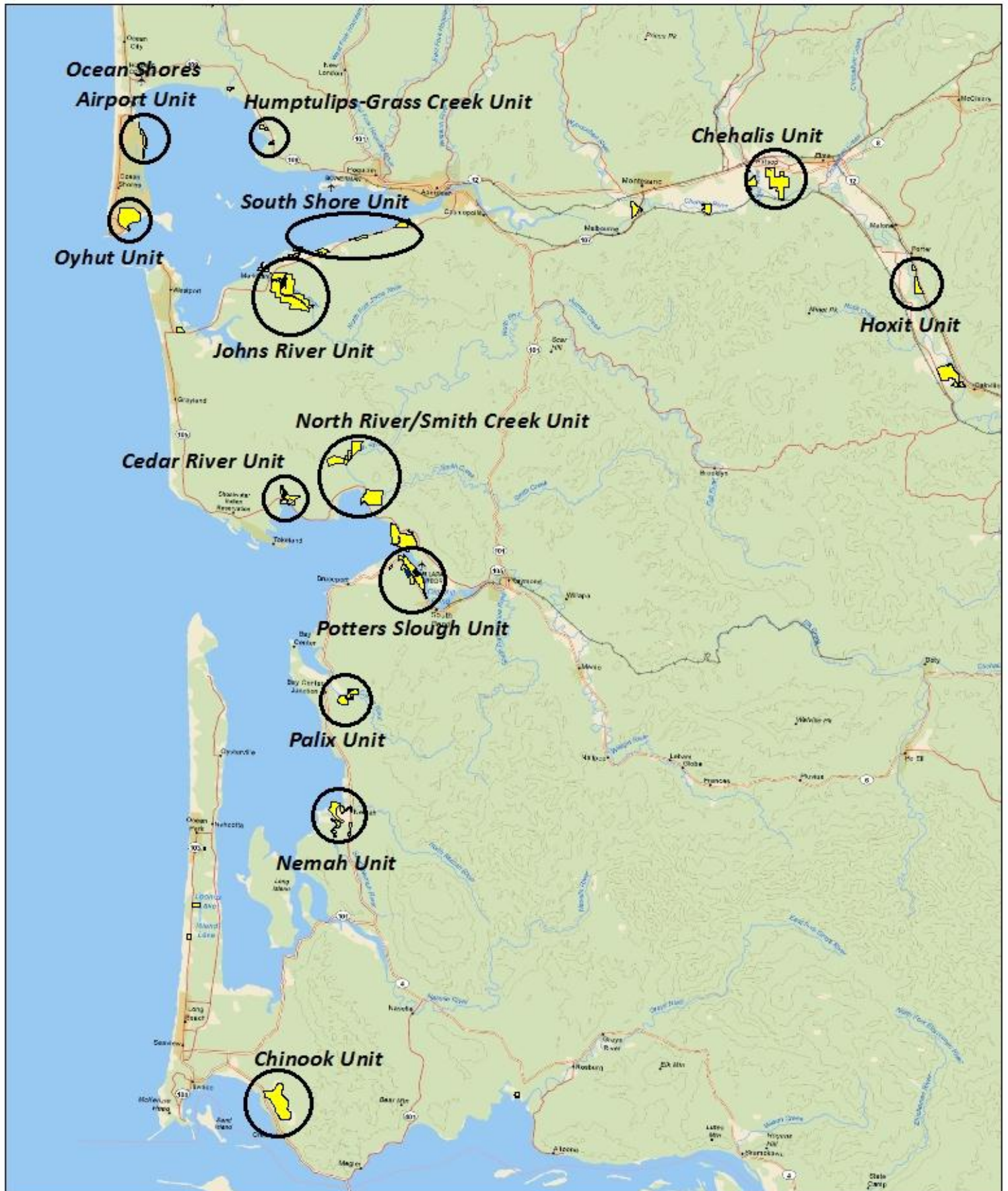
Diving Ducks:

Low numbers of goldeneyes and buffleheads.

Geese:

Occasionally Canada geese.





WILLAPA WETLANDS (POTTER'S SLOUGH) UNIT – 580 acres

The Willapa Wetlands (Potter's Slough) Unit is a restored tidally influenced estuary located about 2 miles west of South Bend along the Willapa River and adjacent to Highway 101. There is a developed parking area at this site, as well as, 3 established hunting blinds. The unit is managed for restored estuary function, waterfowl habitat, and elk forage. In early morning and late evening this is an excellent location for Roosevelt elk viewing.

Scouting Report

Dabbling Ducks:

Moderate numbers of mallards, wigeon, teal and pintails.

Diving Ducks:

Low numbers of common goldeneyes and buffleheads.

Geese:

Moderate numbers of Canada Geese.
High numbers of Dusky Canada Geese



Legend



Willapa Wetlands (Potters Slough) Unit



Developed Parking Area



Established Hunting Blinds



Trail

0 0.25 0.5 Miles



JOHNS RIVER UNIT - 1500 acres

A visitor parking area, boat launch, and gated access roads and trails provide largely a walk-in experience. Hunting occurs for deer, waterfowl, elk, bear, band-tailed pigeon, and forest grouse. Waterfowl hunting is particularly popular and successful on the tidelands on nearby Markham Island. Fishing is widespread for whitefish, rainbow and cutthroat trout, sea run cutthroat, and several races of salmon. Hiking and wildlife watching trips are common on the dikes and the established trail system. Drive West from Aberdeen on Hwy 105 approximately 11 miles, turn Left .1 mi. on John's River Road, Left on Game Farm Rd .1 mi. to parking area.

Scouting Report

Dabbling Ducks:

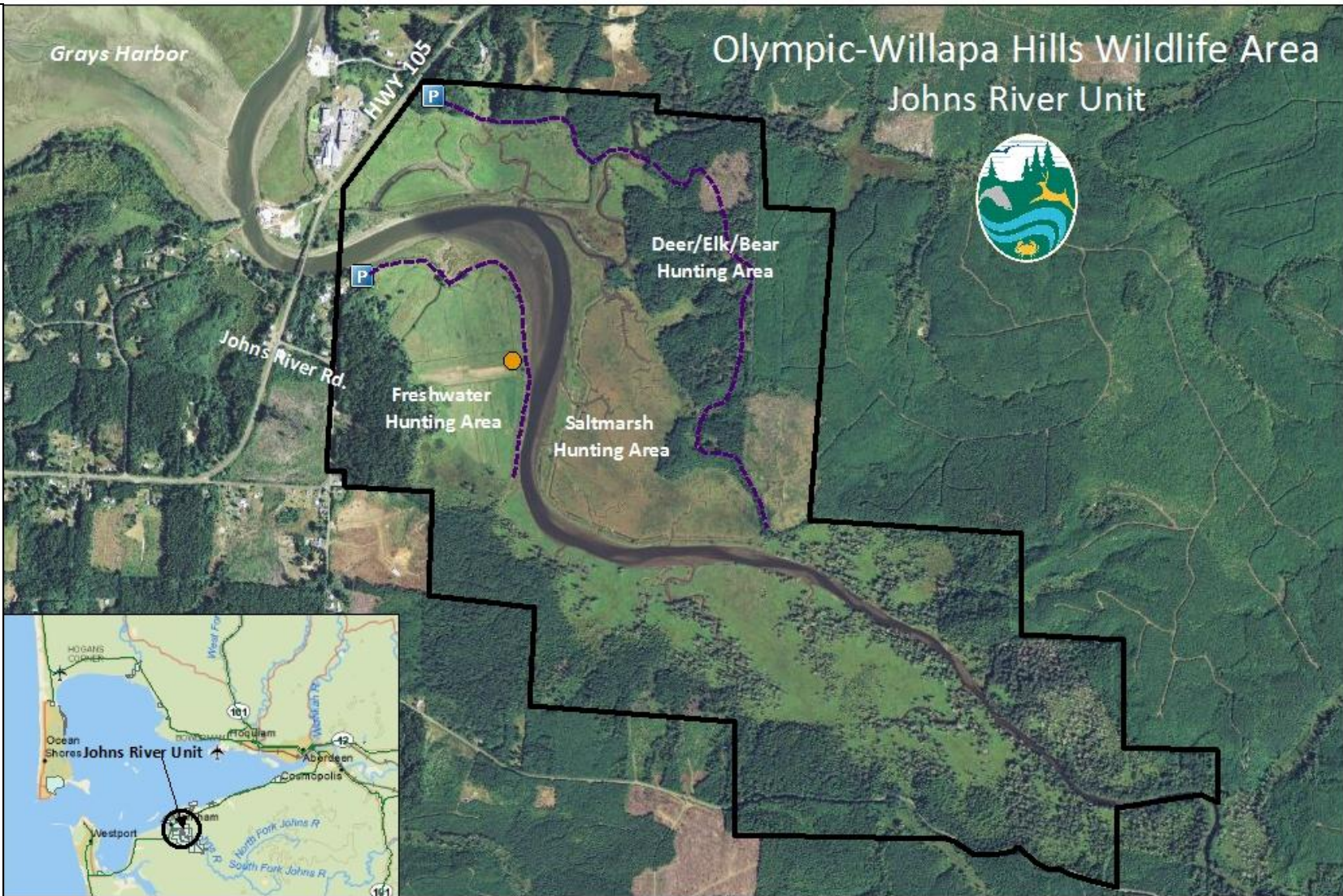
Moderate numbers of mallards, wigeon, teal and pintails.

Diving Ducks:

Moderate numbers of common goldeneyes and buffleheads.

Geese:

Low to moderate numbers of Canada Geese.



Legend

- | | | | |
|---|------------------------|---|-------------------|
|  | Johns River Unit |  | Trail |
|  | Developed Parking Area |  | ADA Hunting Blind |

0 0.5 1 Miles



CHEHALIS RIVER UNIT - 640 acres

The Chehalis unit is approximately 600 acres located southwest of Elma. This unit is maintained for waterfowl habitat and associated recreation. The Lower Chehalis Valley winters between 5,000-20,000 ducks and geese. This farmland area is linked to the wintering waterfowl of Grays Harbor estuary, with 50,000 ducks and geese utilizing the area for feeding. Most of the land owned by WDFW is open wetland, riparian shrub habitat, or meadow/field habitat. From Montesano, drive East on Hwy 12 7.7 miles to Schoulweller road. From Elma, drive west on Hwy 12 2.1 miles to Schoulweller road. Several options are present for parking to access the wildlife area. To access "Waterfowl Area #1" park at the north end of Shoulweller Rd. and walk over sand pile and down the gravel road adjacent to Hwy 8. "Waterfowl Area #2" is generally accessed by boat during the waterfowl season. The first gate at the end of Shoulweller is left open to allow for easier boat deployment.

Scouting Report

Dabbling Ducks:

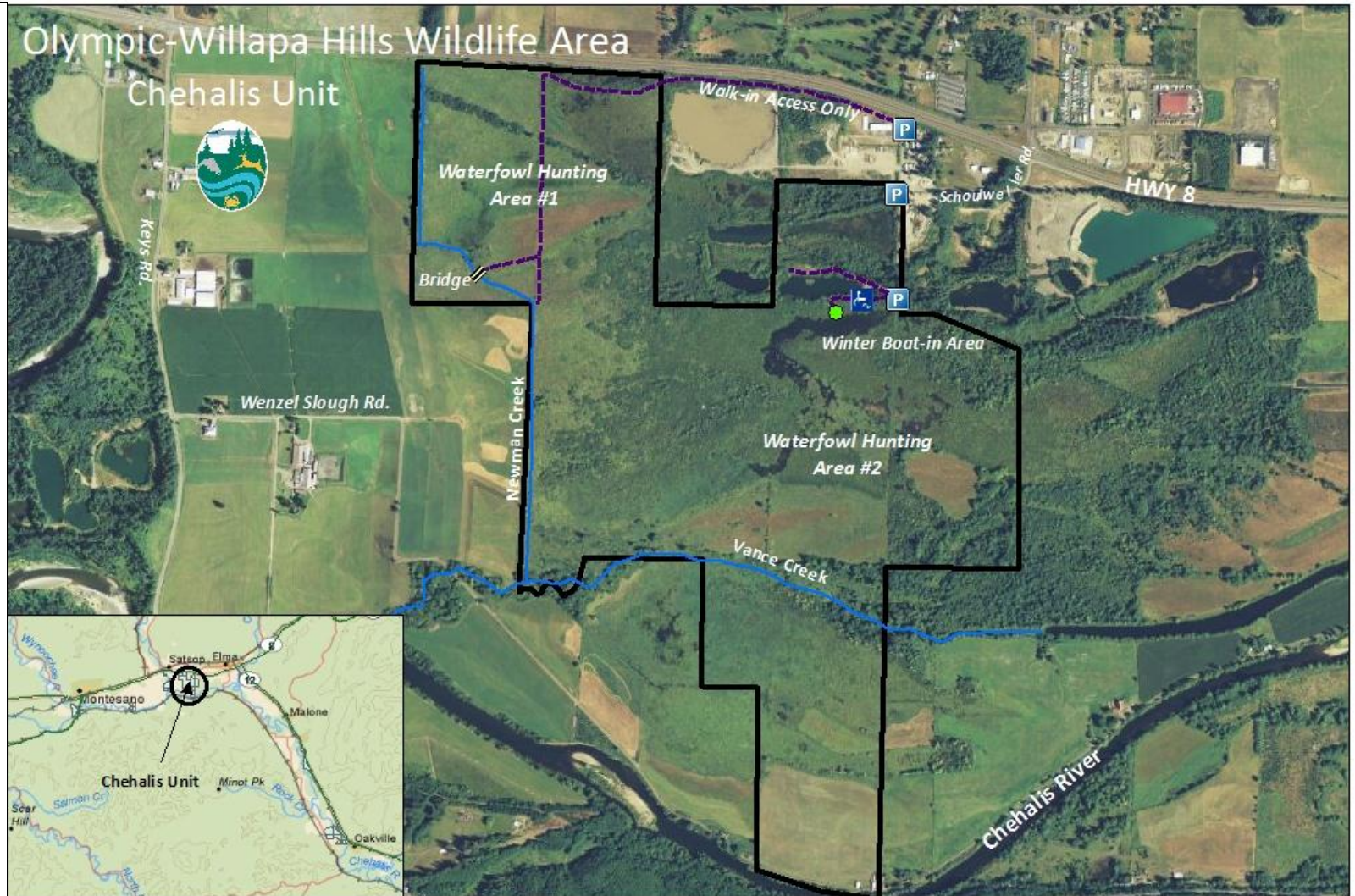
Moderate to high numbers of mallards, wigeon, pintail, green-winged teal, and shovelers

Diving Ducks:

Low numbers of bufflehead, goldeneye, and hooded mergansers

Geese:

Low to moderate numbers of Canada Geese throughout the season



Legend

- Chehalis Unit
- Trail
- P Parking Area
- ADA Hunting Blind

0 0.375 0.75 Miles



HOXIT UNIT – 80 acres

The 80-acre Hoxit unit is located 1.5 miles south of Porter and is maintained for winter waterfowl habitat. From Elma drive 7.8 miles South on Hwy 12. From Oakville drive 6.2 miles North on Hwy 12. There are ongoing wetland restoration and waterfowl enhancement project at this site. There is foot access to Chehalis River for fishing or launching small crafts. This is a popular waterfowl location however it is rarely crowded. There are also good birding opportunities at this unit.

Scouting Report

Dabbling Ducks:

Moderate numbers of mallards, wigeon, green winged teal and pintail

Diving Ducks:




Low numbers of bufflehead, goldeneye, and green winged teal

Geese:

Low numbers of Canada geese



Legend

-  Hoxit Unit  Trail
 Parking Area

0 0.25 0.5 Miles



CEDAR RIVER UNIT – 315 acres

The Cedar River Unit is located at the northern end of Willapa Bay just outside the City of Tokeland. This unit is primarily utilized for waterfowl hunting, shellfish harvesting, and big game access. There are no developed parking areas, however there are several options for accessing the site. Parking near gates is allowed however vehicles that block gates will be removed immediately. These gates access several thousand acres of operational timberlands and are used regularly by private timber companies. Waterfowl hunting occurs upriver on Cedar River and major slough channels. There is also waterfowl hunting opportunities on the bay near the mouth of the Cedar River as it crosses under Hwy 105.

Scouting
Report

Dabbling Ducks:

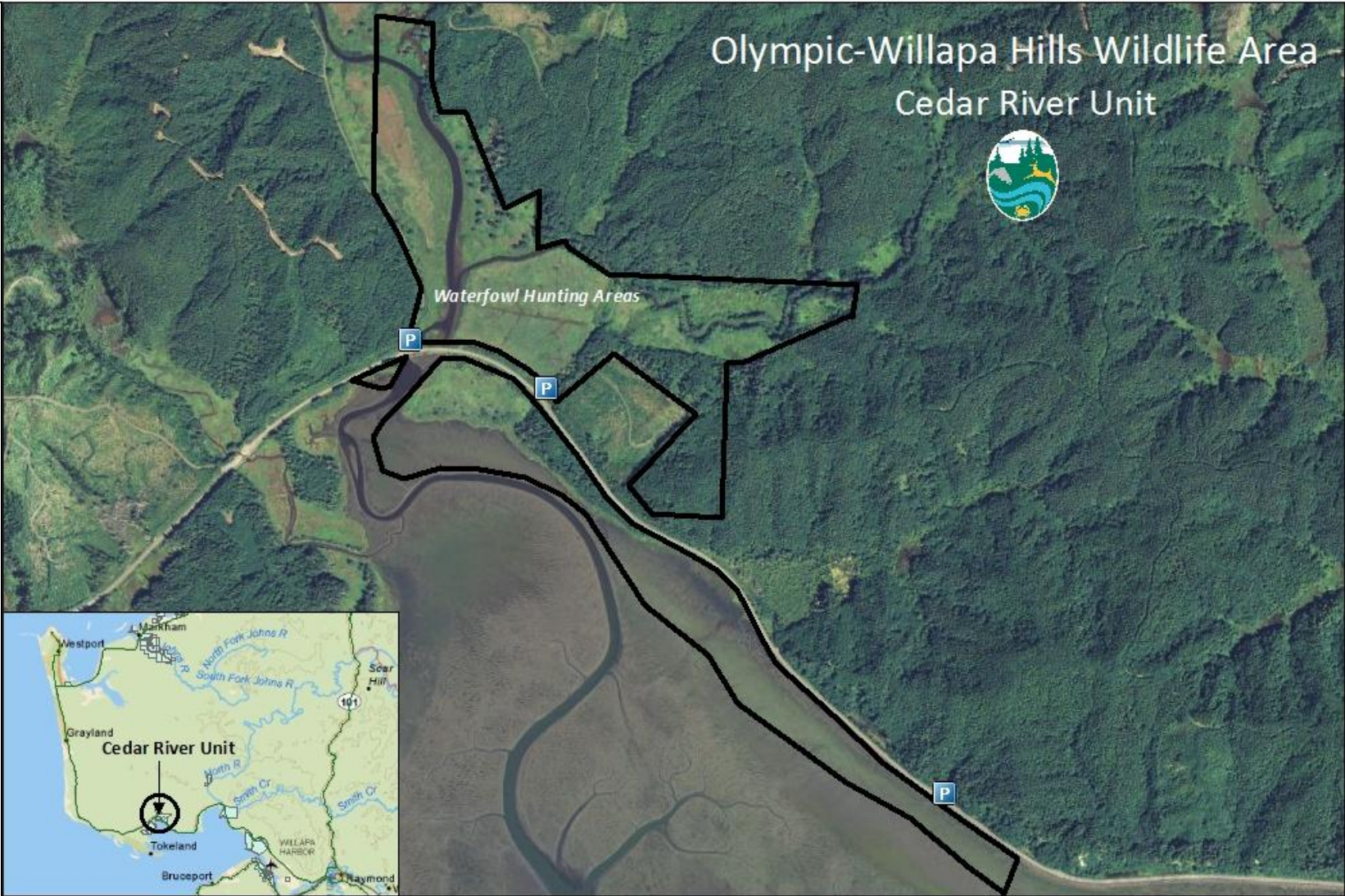
Moderate to high numbers of mallards, wigeon, pintail, and green winged teal especially when the bay experiences rough conditions

Diving Ducks:

Low numbers of bufflehead, mergansers and goldeneye

Geese:

Moderate to high numbers of Canada Geese. ***High numbers of Dusky Canada geese***



Legend

-  Cedar River Unit
-  Un-Developed Parking Area - DO NOT BLOCK GATES

0 0.25 0.5 Miles



NORTH RIVER / SMITH CREEK UNIT – 646 acres

The Smith Creek – North River Unit is located about 10 miles northwest of Raymond, WA. Habitat at this site is predominately marine estuary, pasture, and some mixed deciduous/coniferous forest. Located at the mouth of Smith Creek it is a popular site for Sea Kayaking, Waterfowl hunting, bird watching, and fishing. This site has no developed trails. There is a water access site associated with this property with an established boat launch. Directions to water access site: From Raymond drive north 10.4 mi on Hwy 105. Turn right at “Public Fishing” sign just across the Smith River Bridge. From Tokeland, Drive south approximately 8.5 miles on Hwy 105. Turn left just before the Smith Creek Bridge.

Scouting Report

Dabbling Ducks:

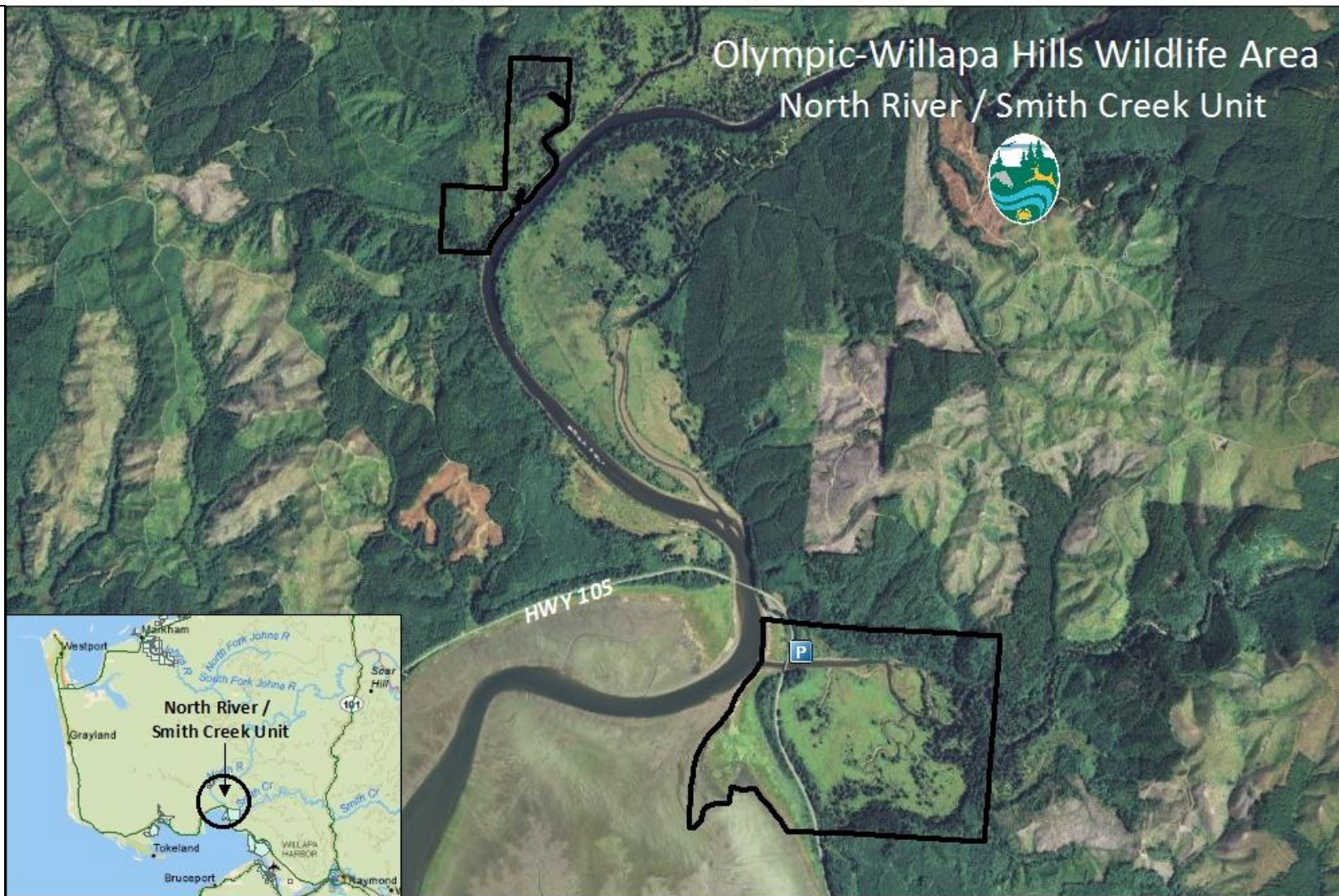
Low to moderate numbers of pintails, mallards, wigeon and teal.

Diving Ducks:



Low numbers of common goldeneye and buffleheads.

Geese:

Occasionally Canada geese occur.



Legend

-  North River / Smith Creek Unit
-  Developed Parking Area (established boat launch)

0 0.5 1 Miles



PALIX UNIT - 250 acres

The Palix Unit is located 5 miles southwest of South Bend, WA. This unit is primarily a tidally influenced marine estuary supporting moderate to high numbers of waterfowl in winter. This area has no developed access point or facilities and is best accessed by boat. A maintained boat launch is located adjacent to Highway 101 at the Palix River. This area is mostly within the tide zone of the estuary. Often flooded at high tide it has a rich diversity of plant and animal life. Roosevelt elk, deer, and numerous birds and small mammals can be seen here. This area is popular for waterfowl hunting and elk hunting.

Scouting Report

Dabbling Ducks:

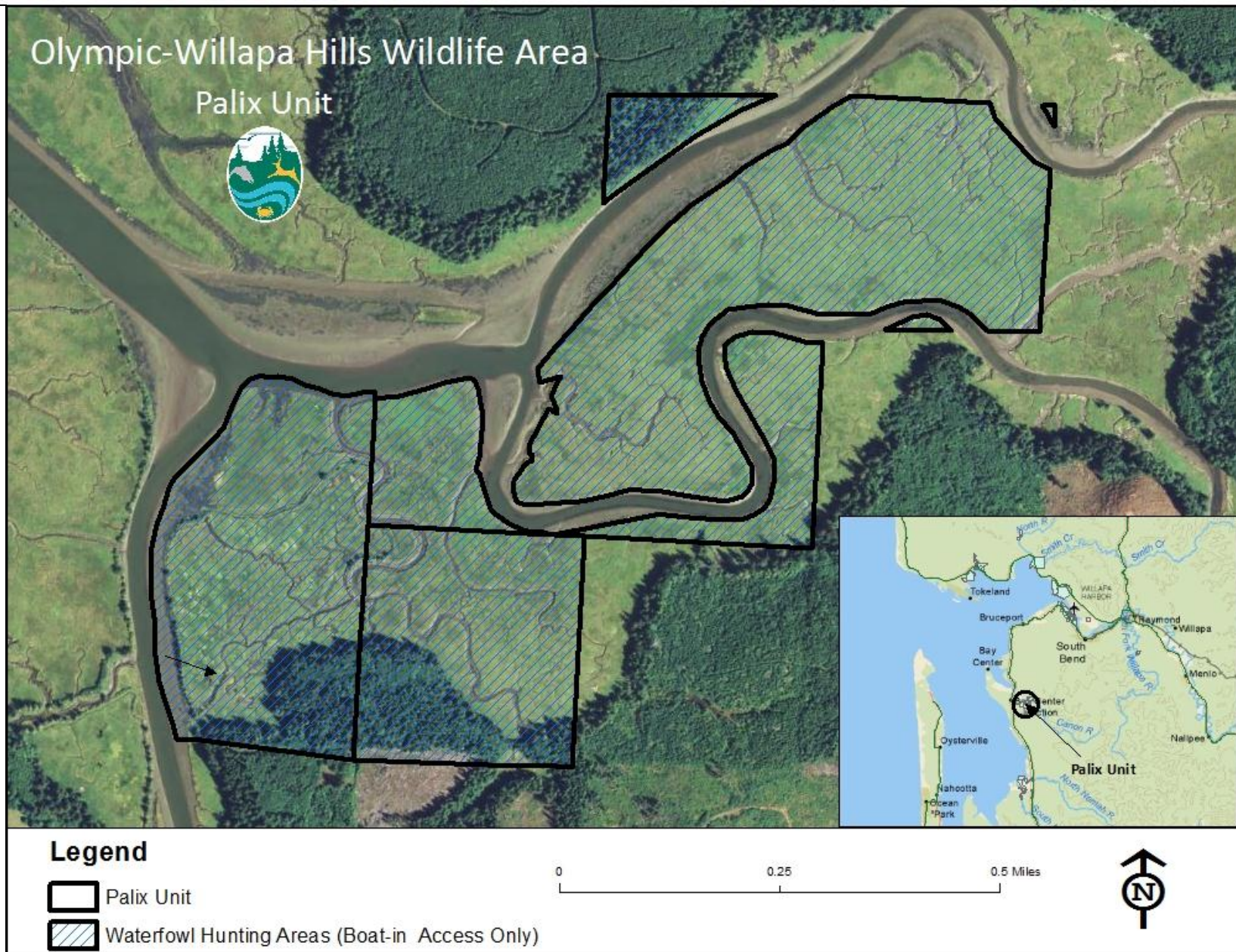
Low to moderate numbers of wigeon, pintail, green winged teal and mallards.

Diving Ducks:

Scoters, bufflehead, and scaup in the main channel.

Geese:

Low to moderate numbers of Canada geese.



NEMAH UNIT - 250 acres

The 217-acre Nemah River-Estuary unit is located 15.5 miles southwest of South Bend in Pacific County. This property contains important tidelands, estuary wetlands and salt marsh habitat that benefit salmon, migratory waterfowl and birds of prey. There is a small parking area in front of a WDFW owned gate. Beyond the gate a small trail leads through a mature spruce bottom forest to the salt marsh of Willapa Bay. Several sloughs can be hunted if the right conditions area present. This site is also often utilized for elk hunting in the Nemah watershed.

Scouting
Report

Dabbling Ducks:

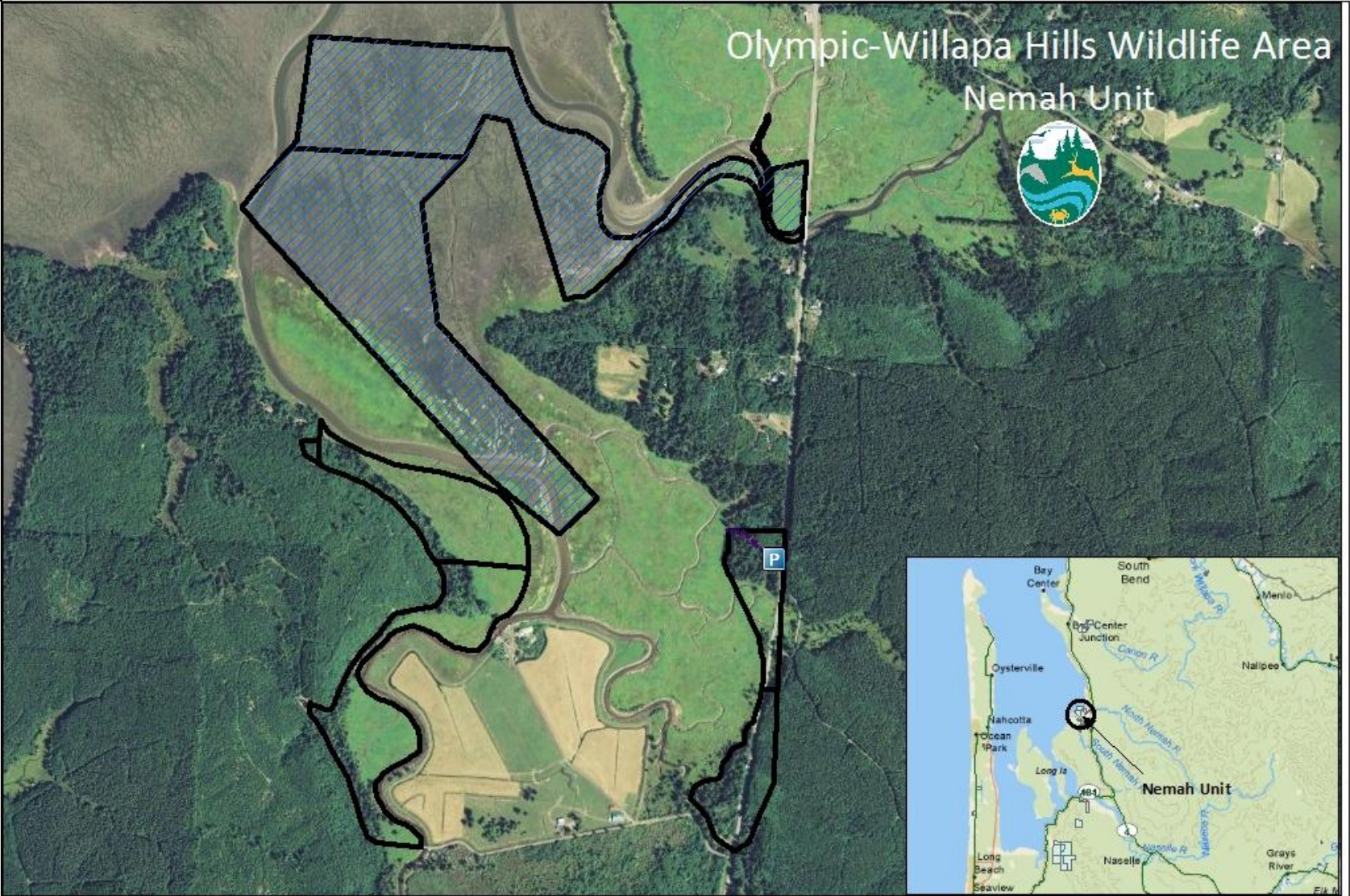
Moderate to high numbers of mallards, wigeon, pintail and green-winged teal

Diving Ducks:


Low to moderate numbers of bufflehead, scoters, scaup, and goldeneye

Geese:

Low to moderate numbers of Canada geese.



Legend

 Nemah Unit

 Waterfowl Hunting Areas (Boat-in Access Only)



Un-Developed Parking Area (in front of gate)



Trail - Foot Access Only

0

0.5

1 Miles



CHINOOK UNIT - 900 acres

The Chinook Unit is located off of Highway 101 just outside of the city of Chinook on the Lower Columbia River. There are two access points that can be utilized. The northern parking area is located .25 miles east of the Chinook River Bridge on Hwy 101. This access point affords a small boat launch area adjacent to the main parking area. Hunting on the main Chinook river channel and sloughs is common on this unit via boat. Also, this access point provides a walk-in experience to wetlands and ponded areas on the southern portions of the wildlife area unit. The other access point is located off of Ligenfelter Road off of Highway 101. This small parking area provides access to the southern and eastern portions of the wildlife area. Fields immediately adjacent to this parking area are managed to provide waterfowl feeding habitat and can provide solid hunting conditions when the water is up. Both access sites are utilized by pheasant and big game hunters throughout the hunting season. This is a popular unit since it provides a variety of quality hunting prospects. It also provides excellent bird watching opportunities.

Scouting
Report

Dabbling Ducks:
Dependant on conditions on the Columbia River. Moderate numbers of mallards, wigeon, green-winged teal, and pintails

Diving Ducks:
Low to moderate numbers of bufflehead, mergansers, and goldeneye

Geese:
Low to moderate numbers of several subspecies of Canada geese



Legend

- Chinook Unit
- Developed Parking Area

OCEAN SHORES AIRPORT UNIT - 185 acres

The Ocean Shores Airport Unit is located near Ocean Shores, WA at the Ocean Shore Airport. Parking is available at the airport. Instructions and rules for hunting at this site are posted at the parking area. This area is a popular waterfowl hunting spot. It also offers excellent year round birding opportunities. Spring and fall migrations are best described as spectacular. From Ocean Shores follow signs to airport and park in visitor parking area.

Scouting Report

Dabbling Ducks:

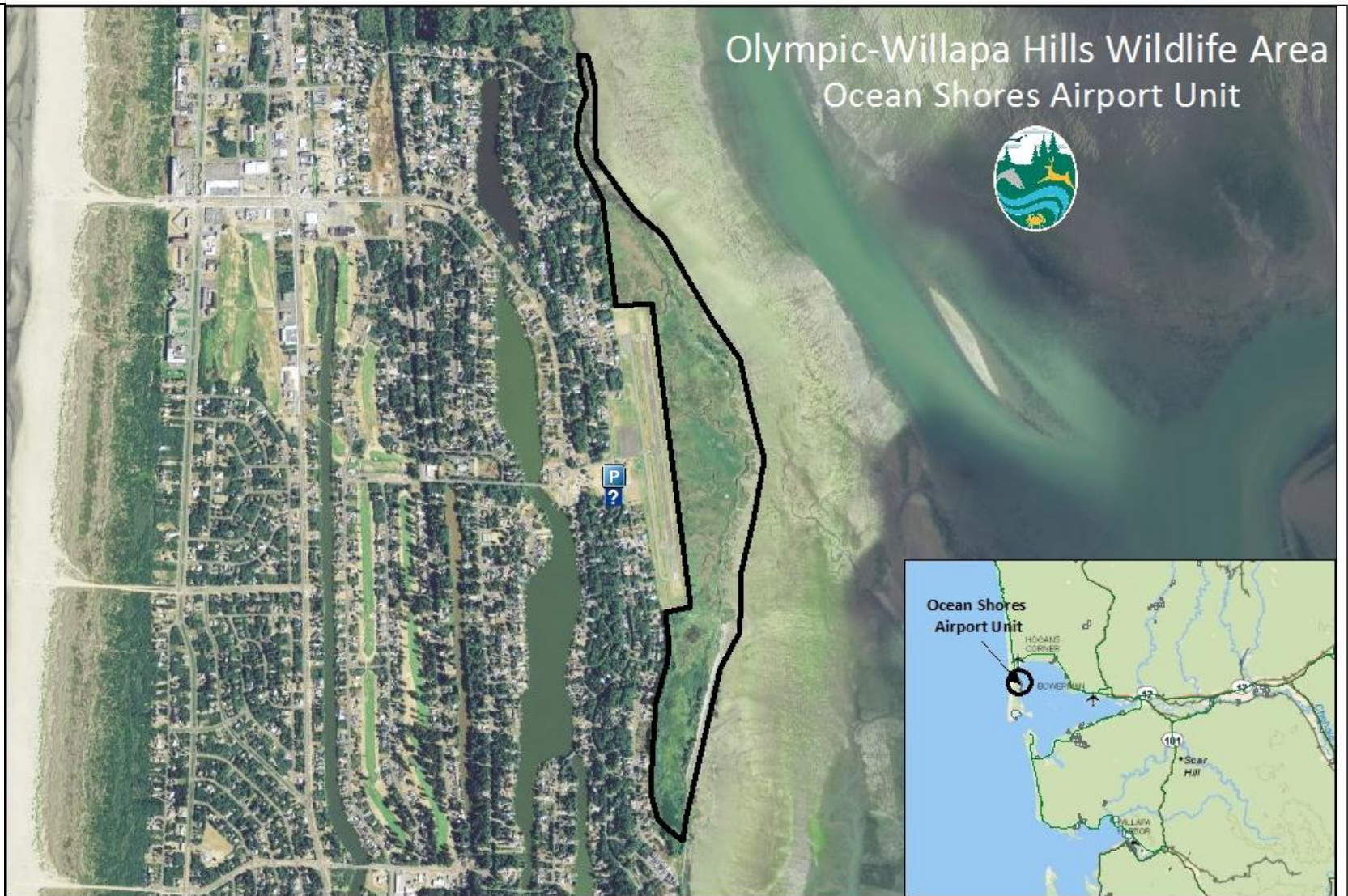
Moderate numbers of mallards, teal, pintail and wigeon occur.

Diving Ducks:



Low to moderate numbers of Scaup, goldeneyes and buffleheads.

Geese:

Low to moderate numbers of Canada geese.



Legend

-  Ocean Shores Airport Unit
-  Developed Parking Area

0 0.5 1 Miles



OYHUT UNIT - 683 acres

The Oyhut Unit is located at the south end of the Ocean Shores Peninsula in Grays Harbor County. This basin is located off of Damon Point and offers limited waterfowl hunting due to the recent landscape changes since the 2007 storm alterations. Access is also limited due to recent development of houses around the unit. There is no established parking areas but the unit can be accessed by walking in from the road near the sewage treatment plant. This area is very popular with walkers and birdwatchers throughout the waterfowl season. Hunting success is highly dependent on the tides and weather. From downtown Ocean Shores take Point Brown avenue south to Toquin Avenue. Turn right to unimproved parking area. This site includes nesting areas for Western Snowy Plover. Please respect "closed to Public access" signs to protect nests.

Scouting Report

Dabbling Ducks:

Low to moderate mallards, teal, and pintails.

Diving Ducks:



Low numbers Scaup, scoters, bufflehead and goldeneyes, depending on the weather.

Geese:

Occasional Canada geese.



Legend

-  Oyhut Unit
-  Developed Parking Area

HUMPTULIPS / GRASS CREEK UNIT - 890 acres

The 890-acre Humptulips-Grass Creek unit is located in North Bay at the confluence of the Humptulips River, Grass Creek and Grays Harbor in Grays Harbor County. It is managed for tidal channel and estuary preservation in North Bay, salmon recovery and waterfowl habitat. No maintained trails exist. Waterfowl areas are best accessed by boat or by the adventuring brush buster. Area is a popular water fowling and fishing site with excellent birding opportunities.

Scouting
Report

Dabbling Ducks:

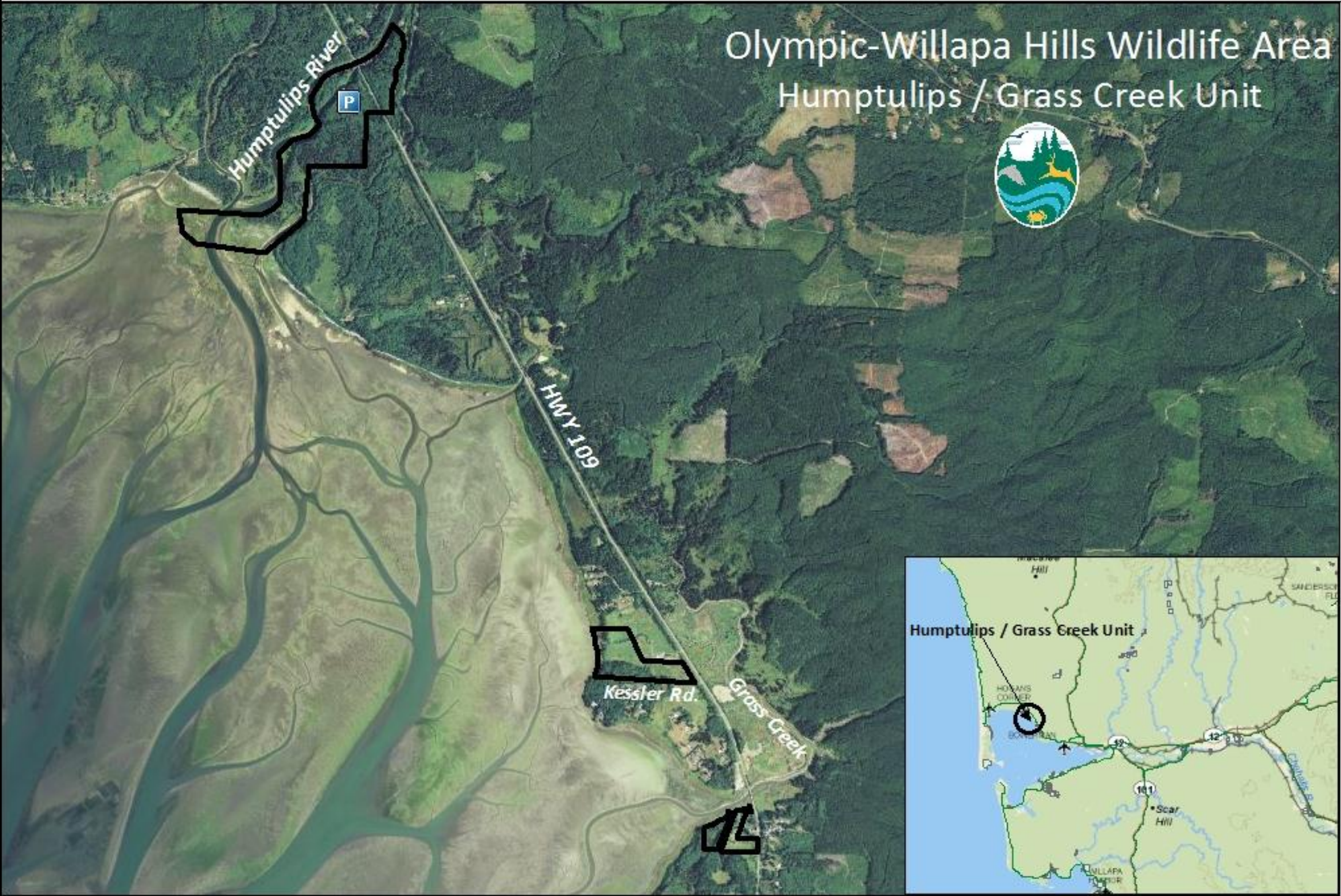
Low numbers of mallards, wigeon, teal, and pintails

Diving Ducks:

Low numbers of scaup, mergansers, bufflehead, and goldeneye

Geese:

Low numbers of Canada geese



Legend

Humptulips / Grass Creek Unit

Developed Parking Area (with established boat launch)

0 1 2 Miles



SOUTH SHORE GRAYS HARBOR - 63 acres

The South Grays Harbor Unit is located southwest of Aberdeen, WA. There are no established parking areas or other facilities at this site. This unit is a popular waterfowl hunting site that supports moderate to high numbers of wintering waterfowl.

Scouting Report

Dabbling

Ducks:

Moderate to high numbers mallards, wigeon and pintail. Highly dependant on tides and wind direction

Diving Ducks:

Low numbers of bufflehead and goldeneye may be present in winter.

Geese:

Low numbers of Canada geese.

